

ETHNIC COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP
May 9, 2007

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT

ABSENT

ECAG FACILITATOR

Lourdes Cordova Martinez, Community Relations Manager

AFRICAN-AMERICAN CAUCUS

Tod Short, Chair
Stan Lee

Patricia Byrd
Rosa Washington

LATINO CAUCUS

Ramon Diaz
Anastasio Medina
Rose Montoya-Lona
Daniel Morales

Fernando Del Rio
Harold Martinez

ASIAN-PACIFIC ISLANDER CAUCUS

Tom Chang, Chair
Paul Choe
David Sakurai

NATIVE AMERICAN

John Bacheller

OTHERS PRESENT

None.

AQMD STAFF

Jim Clouet, Sr. Public Information Specialist
Carolyn Hamilton, Public Affairs Specialist
David Madsen, Acting Community Relations Manager
Lourdes Cordova Martinez, Community Relations Manager
Gabriela Navar, Office Assistant
John Olvera, Sr. Deputy District Counsel
Greg Ushijima, Air Quality Engineer II
Jill Whynot, Planning & Rules Manager

1. **Call to Order/Opening Remarks**

2. **Approval of the March 14, 2007 Minutes/Review of Action Items**

The March 14, 2007 Minutes were approved as presented.

ACTION: *Staff to forward the minutes of the March 14, 2007 meeting to the Administrative Committee as an information item for their May, 2007 meeting.*

ACTION: *Provide a copy of the ozone map with the 19 subregions delineated.*

ACTION: *Provide data for ultrafine PM and health benefit information.*

ACTION: *Provide map showing EJ areas.*

3. **Caucus and Subcommittee Reports**

There were none.

4. **School Flag Program**

A portion of the BP/ARCO Settlement was allotted to establish Smoggy Day notifications for schools. Jim Clouet, Senior Public Information Specialist, provided an update on the program implementation to ECAG members. Mr. Clouet informed members that 50 schools throughout the jurisdiction were targeted for the program: 20 in the Los Angeles County area and 10 in each of the other counties (San Bernardino, Orange, and Riverside). A contract with the American Lung Association had been negotiated due to the Association's contacts with schools.

On April 19, 2007, there was a program kick-off at Provedencia Elementary School in Burbank, CA. Three television stations taped the ceremony which was hosted by Governing Board Member Supervisor Antonovich.

Currently, there are 10 schools in Los Angeles that have agreed to implement the program. The District is in negotiation with six schools and has been rejected by five. In the San Bernardino area, four schools have agreed, with two rejecting. In Riverside County, four schools agreed and six have either rejected or are considering the program. Orange County has two schools which accepted and six which are considering the program. The main concern for school officials is the shortage of extra time in the work day to implement new programs.

The selected schools will be involved with the program for a two-year period. Special signs are being prepared to display in playgrounds accompanying the flags. With this last comment, Mr. Clouet concluded his presentation. Member Lee expressed his concern for schools refusing to participate. Mr. Clouet commented that the time crunch in the school day was the focus of this

issue. Lourdes Cordova-Martinez, Community Relations Manager, also reminded members that the time issues are valid and schools are requested to sign a commitment accepting the responsibility to train staff on air quality issues and health effects, including flying a flag everyday. Because of the commitment involved, staff planned to present this plan to elementary schools only, but high schools have also demonstrated interest.

Member Medina posed the question whether Science teachers had been approached. Mr. Clouet responded by mentioning the chain of authority which he was made aware of beginning with the school districts down to the Principals. Member Morales requested a list of the involved schools. Ms. Martinez reminded the members of a previous e-mail which listed the schools. Member Morales requested more schools be approached in the Riverside area. Member Medina inquired whether Catholic Schools had been contacted. Ms. Martinez mentioned that the Private sector had not been involved up to this point, but would convey the message to the District's contractors. Member Montoya-Lona agreed with Member Media citing the size of the districts.

5. Update on the Dry Cleaner Grant Program

Greg Ushijima, Air Quality Engineer II, provided an overview on the extension of the Dry Cleaner Grant Program which accommodates the water-based cleaners only.

By way of background, Mr. Ushijima informed ECAG members that in the District's jurisdiction there are approximately 2,200 dry clean machines. A large majority of these machines still function on Perc. Currently, there exist two requirements for the state to phase-out Perc usage. AQMD requires phase-outs be completed by December 31, 2020 and CARB by January of 2023. The AQMD Board approved the program in December, 2002, allocating two million dollars to be used for Non Perc technologies. There are three funding levels to the grant program: \$20,000 for CO₂ machines, up to \$10,000 for professional wet systems and \$5,000 for hydrocarbon. In Phase I of the grant program, 343 checks have been issued. Phase II was approved April, 2006. One million dollars was approved by the Board from the BP/ARCO funds; however, an additional \$250,000 was requested to assist vendors which received Board approval in April, 2007, with clarification in June for CO₂ machines. Member Medina inquired into the preference of Hydrocarbon machines by vendors. Mr. Ushijima replied that preference is given to Hydrocarbon due to the process similarity to Perc.

6. Presentation on AQMP Socioeconomic Analysis

Jill Whynot, Planning and Rules Manager, provided ECAG members with updates on the Socioeconomic Analysis Domain and updates on the 2007 Air Quality Management Plan. Ms. Whynot mentioned there are 19 subregions of the Socioeconomic Analysis Domain. The key elements looked at in these subregions are: Benefits – whether health issues have improved, Costs – such as Capital Expenditures on Devices, and Infrastructure – the impacts on jobs by industry, occupation and ethnicity. The main cost in benefits is the

mortality rate. Member Montoya-Lona expressed concern regarding health effects from ultrafine particles. Ms. Whynot referred Member Montoya-Lona to Mr. Jean Ospital, Health Effects Officer, and suggested that he update members.

Ms. Whynot informed members that due to the AQMP, overall more jobs have been created with a more diverse distribution racially. All wage groups also benefit.

7. **Review last Governing Board Meeting and Discussion on Upcoming Governing Board Agenda Items**

Ms. Cordova Martinez briefly mentioned items for discussion in the upcoming Board meeting. Rule 445 regarding Wood Burning appliances, and the AQMP will be the main topics discussed. Member Medina was interested in how much publicity had been done to promote the AQMP. Ms. Martinez commented that radio and newspaper ads have been placed and a press conference was held in Griffith Park prior to the brush fires.

8. **Other Business**

Member Medina extended an invitation to fellow members to the SCAG meeting on Emissions Reductions for Goods Movement in Southern California. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at their offices (818 W. 7th Street, L.A.) from 1:00-4:00PM.

Member Bacheller posed the question as to whether there had been any comment on the federal judges decision regarding locomotive idling. John Olvera, Sr. Deputy District Counsel, mentioned the item is still pending, but an update will follow.

Ms. Cordova Martinez commented on two of the ECAG members attendance at the "Asthma Is a Small World" Conference held at the Disneyland Hotel in April. David Madsen, Acting Community Relations Manager, mentioned that Guest Speaker Jackie Joyner-Kersey gave an excellent talk on the impacts of Asthma on her life as an athlete.

Ms. Cordova Martinez stated that ECAG Chair Cynthia Verdugo-Peralta was presented with a Dove by Dr. William Burke at the last Board meeting. Member Montoya-Lona expressed the desire to have ECAG members also make some type of formal "Thank You/Goodbye" to her.

9. **Public Comment**

There was none.

10. **Adjournment**

There being no further comment, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.